



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/083,073	02/26/2002	Richard Dean Dettinger	ROC920020061US1	4686

7590 04/26/2004  
IBM Corporation  
Intellectual Property Law Dept. 917  
3605 Hwy. 52 North  
Rochester, MN 55901

EXAMINER

RONES, CHARLES

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2175

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2004

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SL

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/083,073

Applicant(s)

DETTINGER ET AL.

Examiner

Charles L. Rones

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE \_\_\_\_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being *Prakash* by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0123984 ('*Prakash*').

*Prakash* discloses:

As to claims 1, 18, and 34,

(i) a region for displaying conditions of a query; See Abstract; [0018-0019]; [0039]; and

(ii) a first graphical element for initiating a process of combining two or more conditions of the query together with logic values to form a complex condition; See Abstract; [0018]; [0067-0069].

As to claims 2, 15, 23, 31, and 39,

wherein the graphical user interface further comprises a second graphic element for initiating a process of separating two or more conditions of the complex condition; See Abstract; [0018]; [0067-0069].

As to claim 3,

wherein the region and the first graphical element are on a common screen of the graphical user interface; See Fig. 2; [0012]; [0018].

As to claims 4 and 19,

wherein the graphical user interface content is hypertext markup language (HTML) content; See [0070].

As to claims 5, 20, and 36,

wherein the conditions comprise comparison operations; See [0060-0064].

As to claims 6, 21, and 37,

wherein the complex condition comprises at least one comparison operator and at least one Boolean operator; See [0060-0064].

As to claims 7, 22, and 38,

wherein the first graphical element comprises a button; See [0054-0058].

As to claims 8, 24, and 40,

wherein the graphical user interface content further defines an third graphical element of the graphical user interface; See [0054-0057]; [0075];

wherein the third graphical element, which when selected, causes the query to be executed; See [0054-0057]; [0075].

As to claims 9, 16, 25, 32, and 41,

wherein providing the graphical user interface content comprises generating the graphical user interface content by an application configured to access a data repository; See [0018]; [0039].

As to claims 10, 13, 26, and 29,

wherein the application is a Web application/browser; See [0012]; [0018]; [0039].

As to claim 11,

combining two or more user-selected conditions of the query together to form the complex condition; See Abstract; [0018]; [0067-0069]; and

outputting information which, when rendered on a display device, displays the complex condition; See Abstract; [0018-0019]; [0039].

As to claims 14 and 30,

(i) a region for displaying conditions of a query; See Abstract; [0018-0019]; [0039]; and

(ii) a first graphical element for initiating a process of combining two or more conditions of the query together with logic values to form a complex condition; in response to a user event activating the first graphical element; See Abstract; [0018]; [0067-0069]:

(i) combining two or more user-selected conditions of the query together to form the complex condition; See Abstract; [0018]; [0067-0069]; and


(ii) outputting information which, when rendered on a display device, displays the complex condition; See Abstract; [0018-0019]; [0039].

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles L. Ronces whose telephone number is 703-306-3030. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on 703-305-3830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Charles L. Rones  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2175

April 20, 2004